

Union Pacific abandons area rail line

(KNZA)--Union Pacific Railroad is abandoning an area rail line.

Doniphan County Clerk Peggy Franken informed the County Commission Monday of the railroad company's abandonment of the St. Joseph Industrial Lead from near Elwood in Doniphan County to near Robinson in Brown County.

Union Pacific has sent a letter to the Doniphan County Appraiser's Office informing the office that it will no longer be reporting the 31 miles of rail line in the counties, beginning in January 2019.

Franken said it will affect the county's budget. She said the abandonment of the of rail line will result in a reduced assessed valuation for the state assessed utility of nearly \$3.2 million beginning in 2019.

Commission Chairman Tad Gieger suggested exploring options for the abandoned railroad property and land ownership research.

In other action, the Commission approved the purchase of a new courthouse computer server from Lock IT Technologies to replace the current 2012 server at a cost of \$7,491. The new server will come with a 5-year warranty.

And the Commission approved the purchase of a 6 by 16-foot Titan tilt trailer from Larry Turpin for \$6,180 for use in the Road Department.

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